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Therefore, this

United States Patent

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Michael K. Kirk

Acting Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Marcia L. Campbell

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United States Patent [19]

Dickinson et al.

[11] Patent Number: **5,207,224**[45] Date of Patent: **May 4, 1993**[54] **MAGNETIC RESONANCE APPARATUS**[75] Inventors: **Robert J. Dickinson, Wealdstone;
Christopher P. Randell, Uxbridge,
both of England**[73] Assignee: **Picker International, Ltd., Wembley,
United Kingdom**[21] Appl. No.: **855,116**[22] Filed: **Mar. 18, 1992****Related U.S. Application Data**

[63] Continuation of Ser. No. 441,637, Nov. 27, 1989, abandoned.

[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Dec. 9, 1988 [GB] United Kingdom 8828810

[51] Int. Cl.³ **A61B 5/055**[52] U.S. Cl. **128/653.5; 324/318;
5/601**[58] Field of Search **128/653.2, 653.5;
324/309, 318, 322; 378/208, 209; 5/601, 600,
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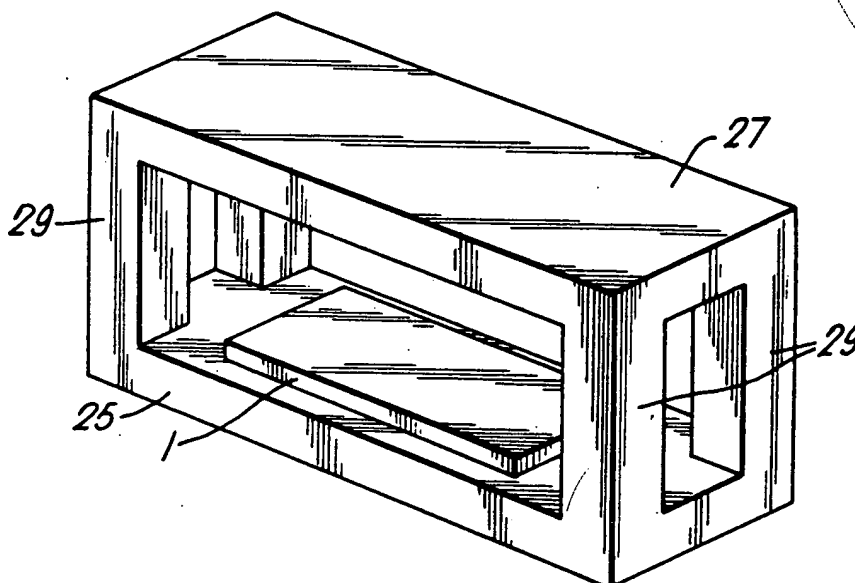
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May 31, 1986.*Primary Examiner*—Ruth S. Smith*Assistant Examiner*—K. M. Pfaffle*Attorney, Agent, or Firm*—Timothy B. Gurin

[57]

ABSTRACT

A magnetic resonance imaging apparatus using a transverse magnet system (29) and having a patient handling arrangement (31, 33) which allows transport of a patient into the magnet system by first moving the patient in a direction (A) at right angles to the head-to-toe axis (B) of the patient. The patient's position in the magnet system may then be adjusted by movement in the head-to-toe axis direction. The area required to accommodate the apparatus is reduced compared with apparatus wherein patient transport is effected solely in the patient's head-to-toe axis direction.

13 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

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